

Good Morning, I am Lisa Parker and I have been the JMG Specialist at Helena High School for the past 8 years. I have 2 classes of JMG which consists of 54 juniors and seniors. When I first started the program we had six students and fortunately over time the program has grown. Our program at HHS offers at risk students as well as high level learners an opportunity to make a difference-- for themselves and for their community.

Our JMG program focuses on 4 programs of work: Leadership Skills, Career Development, Social and Civic Responsibility.

Leadership skills are gained through classroom activities as well as the opportunity for the students to attend a Fall Leadership Conference and in the spring the state JMG office hosts the Montana Career Association conference where students have the opportunity to showcase their talents at the state level. We also participate in a Campaign for Kindness, where we work with 4th grade students in the Helena community getting the message across of the importance of "being kind".

Career Development is gained through self-exploration activities, job shadow experiences, and our JMG class hosts a career fair for all students at Helena High to attend. Throughout the year our JMG class holds **social events** that allow students opportunities to attend social activities that focus on the importance of making healthy lifestyle choices. And finally a large amount of our class time is focused on students learning the importance giving back to the **community** through service learning projects. This year the students have completed Think Pink and Pennies for Patients Campaigns to support cancer awareness, a Toys for Tots drive, Teen for Jeans drive, participated in Festival of Trees which benefits Intermountain Children's Hospital and finally the students have taken it upon themselves to support a local 7 year student David Reed who is battling cancer by holding numerous benefits to help with his medical costs. They are truly learning the importance of GIVING BACK!

JMG is a program that has had proven success in preparing our students for the working world. We use an *Electronic National Data Management System* that documents our students performance outcomes. The JMG office employees in the Department and Labor and Industry are a key part in making sure that the JMG programs throughout the state of Montana are successful. They definitely have *a strong commitment to the JMG program*.

JMG at Helena High is a program that has grown over the past eight years and with your continued support of funding this program it will continue to assist students and allow them opportunities after they graduate from high school.